



Attorney Docket No. 48699-CPA2 (71360)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: H. Sato, et al

EXAMINER: C. Chaney

U.S.S.N.: 09/155,635

GROUP: 1745

FILED: July 9, 1999

FOR: LITHIUM ION SECONDARY BATTERY

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Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

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MAR 12 2004

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Applicants are filing the instant amendment and accompanying Request for Continued Examination and petition for an extension of time within six (6) months of the filing of the Notice of Appeal on September 11, 2003. Applicants request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the attached Declaration by Mr. Miura and the following amendments and remarks.

REMARKS

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application. Applicants request reconsideration of the subject application based on the following remarks. Claims 9-12 are pending in the present application. A copy of the claims currently pending is attached to the instant Response as Appendix A for the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicants also wish to thank Examiner Chaney for their helpful comments during a personal interview conducted on March 2, 2004, with the undersigned agent. During the interview, the disclosure of LONZA KS-25 graphites recited in the Yamada patent (USP 6,040,092) was discussed. The significance of the claimed relationship between particle size to surface area of the graphite powders on which an amorphous carbon layer is deposited was also